

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

UNCLAS STATE 179500

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF, VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE RELATIVES OF AMERICAN CITIZEN -

REF: JAKARTA 9172

1. ICRC DOES HAVE REPRESENTATIVE IN SAIGON BUT HAS HAD VERY LIMITED SUCCESS THUS FAR IN LOCATING PEOPLE IN VIET-NAM. ACCORDING TO ARC; ICRC WORKLOAD IN VIET-NAM IS HEAVILY BACKLOGGED WITH REQUESTS FROM MANY COUNTRIES. NONE-THELESS, BEST ADVICE WE CAN OFFER MR. PETRUCCI IS TO SEEK RED CROSS ASSISTANCE.

2. INTERNATIONAL MAIL SERVICE TO SOUTH VIET-NAM IS CURRENTLY SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF LACK OF SUITABLE TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND THAT SERVICE MAYBE RESUMED IN NEAR FUTURE. IT IS POSSIBLE TO SEND TELEGRAMS TO SAIGON ALTHOUGH DELIVERY TO ADDRESSEES CANNOT BE ASSURED.

3. REGARDING TRANSFER OF MONEY TO VIET-NAM, SINCE APRIL 30, U.S. FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL REGULATIONS PROHIBIT ANY FINANCIAL OR CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS WITH SOUTH VIET-NAM, EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY LICENSED BY TREASURY DEPARTMENT. APPLICATION FOR LICENSE MAY BE MADE TO OFFICE OF FOREIGN

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ASSETS CONTROL, TREASURY D-PARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220.

4. WHILE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR MAJOR U.S. OR FOREIGN

BANKS TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO
SAIGON'S NEW NATIONAL BANK OF VIET-NAM, DEPARTMENT IS NOT
AWARE OF ANY BANK THAT HAS SUCCESSFULLY DONE SO SINCE
COMMUNIST TAKEOVER APRIL 30. IF MR. PETRUCCI IS ABLE TO
OBTAIN A TREASURY LICENSE, HE MAY WISH TO INQUIRE WITH
BANKS BASED IN MAJOR FINANCIAL CENTERS SUCH AS NEW YORK,
PARIS, SINGAPORE OR HONG KONG AS TO THIS POSSIBILITY. INGERSOLL

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